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✓ Latest release

Participation, Job Search and Mobility, Australia

Labour participation potential, underemployment and job attachment, job search experience, labour mobility, hours worked, industry and occupation.

Reference period February 2024

Released 9/07/2024

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Key statistics

In February 2024:

- 1.9 million people were not working but wanted to work
- Job mobility decreased to 8% for the first time in 3 years
- The annual retrenchment rate was 1.7%, an increase from 1.4% in February 2023
- Of the 14.5 million employed people in May 2024, 1.7 million were underemployed.

Feedback

Topics

Statistics from the Participation, Job Search and Mobility (PJSJ) survey are published in three topic-based releases.

- [Potential workers \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/potential-workers/latest-release\)](#)
- [Job mobility \(/statistics/labour/jobs/job-mobility/latest-release\)](#)
- [Underemployed workers \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/underemployed-workers/latest-release\)](#)

Microdata and Tablebuilder


Microdata from the PJSJ survey for 2015 to 2024 is available in [TableBuilder \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/tablebuilder\)](#) and [DataLab \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/datalab\)](#) (as a supplementary file to the [Longitudinal Labour Force \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](#)). For more information, refer to [Microdata and TableBuilder: Participation, Job Search and Mobility \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/participation-job-search-and-mobility-australia\)](#).

A detailed data item list for the PJSM microdata is available in [Microdata and TableBuilder: Participation, Job Search and Mobility \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/participation-job-search-and-mobility-australia\)](#).

Data downloads

How to use tables

1. Select a state or territory
2. The estimates shown in the table are for the most recent time period (February 2024)
3. The corresponding Time Series ID links to series of annual estimates for earlier time periods (2015 to 2023)

 Time Series Workbook 6228.0 Potential workers Table 1. Potential workers and discouraged job seekers Released at 11:30 am (Canberra time) Fri 29 Apr 2022 Table 1.2 - Potential workers and discouraged job seekers by state and territory, February 2021									
Select a state or territory:				Australian Capital Territory			Time Series IDs		
	Persons	Males	Females				Persons	Males	Females
	'000	'000	'000				'000	'000	'000
Expanded labour force status									
Civilian population	342.8	165.7	177.1				A125173330R	A125184562F	A125178946C
Employed	235.6	118.8	116.9				A125173294T	A125184526W	A125178910A
Underemployed (expanded definition)	21.0	11.7	9.3				A125173324X	A125184566B	A125178950V
Underemployed (headline definition)	12.5	6.7	5.8				A125173338J	A125184570F	A125178954C
Potential workers	30.3	11.8	18.5				A125173298A	A125184530L	A125178914K
Potential workers with job attachment (away from work or waiting to start)	5.4	2.7	2.7				A125173302F	A125184534W	A125178918V
Had a job to go to and available within 4 weeks	4.6	2.7	2.0				A125173322R	A125184554F	A125178938C
Had a job to go to and available last week (a sub-group of unemployed)	2.7	1.8	0.9				A125173282J	A125184514L	A125178898V
Had a job to go to and available within 4 weeks (but not last week)	1.9	0.9	1.1				A125173242X	A125184574B	A125178958L
Had a job to go to and not available within 4 weeks	0.8	0.0	0.8				A125173326X	A125184558B	A125178947V
Potential workers without job attachment	25.0	9.2	15.8				A125173354J	A125184586K	A125178970C
Wanted to work, actively looking and available within 4 weeks	7.9	3.5	4.5				A125173286T	A125184517V	A125178902A
Wanted to work, actively looking and available last week (a sub-group of unemployed)	7.5	3.2	4.3				A125173262X	A125184510C	A125178878L
Wanted to work, actively looking and available within 4 weeks (but not last week)	0.4	0.3	0.2				A125173274J	A125184526W	A125178890C
Wanted to work, actively looking and not available within 4 weeks	0.0	0.0	0.0				A125173306R	A125184538F	A125178922K
Wanted to work, available within 4 weeks but not actively looking	14.7	5.2	9.5				A125173278J	A125184510C	A125178894L
Discouraged job seekers - available within 4 weeks but discouraged from actively looking	1.8	0.8	1.0				A125173310F	A125184542W	A125178926V
Other job seekers - available within 4 weeks but not actively looking for other reasons	13.0	4.6	8.4				A125173314R	A125184546F	A125178930K
Wanted to work, not available within 4 weeks and not actively looking	2.4	0.5	1.9				A125173358T	A125184590B	A125178974L

Potential workers

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Table 1. Potential workers and discouraged job seekers

Download XLSX
[474.3 KB]

Table 2. Characteristics of discouraged job seekers and other potential workers

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[4.29 MB]

Table 3. Duration since last job and main activity of discouraged job seekers and other potential workers

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[3.88 MB]

Table 4. Main reason for not actively looking for work of persons who wanted to work and were available

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[530.5 KB]

Table 4a. Reasons did not actively look for work

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[1.7 MB]

Table 5. Job search experience of unemployed persons

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[1.04 MB]

Table 6. Characteristics of successful and unsuccessful job search experience

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[1.21 MB]

Table 7. Number of job offers while looking for work

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[2.76 MB]

Table 8. Main difficulty and duration of job search of unemployed persons

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[2.94 MB]

Table 9. Main difficulty in finding work by age of unemployed persons

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[2 MB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 1 to 9

↓ [Download ZIP](#)
[13.31 MB]

Job mobility

↓ Download all (11.58 MB)

Table 1. Labour mobility, retrenchments and duration of employment

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[556.2 KB]

Table 2. Retrenchments and other reasons for ceasing a job last year

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[3.09 MB]

Table 3. Changes in employment characteristics of people employed last year

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[975.36 KB]

Table 4. Separations and other changes in employment of people employed last year by industry

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[2.73 MB]

Table 5. Engagements and other changes in employment of people employed last year by industry

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[2.7 MB]

Table 6. Separations and other changes in employment of people employed last year by occupation

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[1.8 MB]

Feedback

Table 7. Engagements and other changes in employment of people employed last year by occupation

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[1.74 MB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 1 to 7

↓ [Download ZIP](#)
[9.85 MB]

Underemployed workers

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Table 1. Cyclical and structural underemployment of full-time and part-time workers

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[1.38 MB]

Table 2. Extended measures of underutilisation

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[214.91 KB]

Table 3. Underemployment status of full-time and part-time workers

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[220.85 KB]

Table 4. Part-time workers who prefer more hours

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[296.92 KB]

Table 5. Characteristics of part-time workers who prefer more hours

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[1.06 MB]

Table 6. Duration of insufficient hours of underemployed part-time workers

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[2.25 MB]

Table 7. Number of extra weekly hours preferred by underemployed part-time workers

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[1.99 MB]

Table 8. Main difficulty in finding more work of underemployed part-time workers

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[614.75 KB]

Relative standard errors, Tables 2 to 8

↓ [Download ZIP](#)
[4.28 MB]

Microdata and TableBuilder

↓ Download all (798.91 KB)

Table 1. Populations

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[563.32 KB]

Relative standard errors, Table 1

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[399.56 KB]

Feedback

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6226.0* (and 6226.0.55.001 in 2014).

Prior to 2014, statistics were published in:

- [Labour Mobility](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6209.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Mobility,%20Australia~February%202013~Latest~21/08/2013&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6209.0&issue=February%202013&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6209.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Mobility,%20Australia~February%202013~Latest~21/08/2013&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6209.0&issue=February%202013&num=&view=&) (6209.0), 1972-2013.
- [Persons Not in the Labour Force](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6220.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Not%20in%20the%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/03/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6220.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6220.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Not%20in%20the%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/03/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6220.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&) (6220.0), 1975-2013.
- [Job Search Experience](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6222.0&viewtitle=Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~July%202013~Latest~05/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6222.0&issue=July%202013&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6222.0&viewtitle=Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~July%202013~Latest~05/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6222.0&issue=July%202013&num=&view=&) (6222.0), 1976-2013.
- [Underemployed workers](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6265.0&viewtitle=Underemployed%20Workers,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6265.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6265.0&viewtitle=Underemployed%20Workers,%20Australia~September%202013~Latest~26/02/2014&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6265.0&issue=September%202013&num=&view=&) (6265.0), 1985-2013.
- [Labour Force Experience](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6206.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Force%20Experience,%20Australia~Feb%202011~Latest~31/08/2011&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6206.0&issue=Feb%202011&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6206.0&viewtitle=Labour%20Force%20Experience,%20Australia~Feb%202011~Latest~31/08/2011&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6206.0&issue=Feb%202011&num=&view=&) (6206.0), 1968-2011.
- [Career Experience](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6254.0&viewtitle=Career%20Experience,%20Australia~Nov%202002~Latest~22/09/2003&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6254.0&issue=Nov%202002&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6254.0&viewtitle=Career%20Experience,%20Australia~Nov%202002~Latest~22/09/2003&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6254.0&issue=Nov%202002&num=&view=&) (6254.0), 1993-2002.
- [Retrenchment and Redundancy](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6266.0&viewtitle=Retrenchment%20and%20Redundancy,%20Australia~Jul%202001~Latest~02/08/2002&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6266.0&issue=Jul%202001&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6266.0&viewtitle=Retrenchment%20and%20Redundancy,%20Australia~Jul%202001~Latest~02/08/2002&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6266.0&issue=Jul%202001&num=&view=&) (6266.0), 1997-2001.
- [Successful and Unsuccessful Job Search Experience](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6245.0&viewtitle=Successful%20and%20Unsuccessful%20Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~Jul%202000~Latest~06/06/2001&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6245.0&issue=Jul%202000&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6245.0&viewtitle=Successful%20and%20Unsuccessful%20Job%20Search%20Experience,%20Australia~Jul%202000~Latest~06/06/2001&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6245.0&issue=Jul%202000&num=&view=&) (6245.0), 1982-2000.
- [Persons Who Had Re-entered The Labour Force](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6264.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Had%20Re-entered%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Jul%201995~Latest~01/02/1996&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6264.0&issue=Jul%201995&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6264.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Had%20Re-entered%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Jul%201995~Latest~01/02/1996&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6264.0&issue=Jul%201995&num=&view=&) (6264.0), 1985-1995.
- [Persons Who Have Left The Labour Force](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6267.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Have%20Left%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Sep%201994~Latest~02/04/1995&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6267.0&issue=Sep%201994&num=&view=&) (https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/second+level+view?ReadForm&prodno=6267.0&viewtitle=Persons%20Who%20Have%20Left%20The%20Labour%20Force,%20Australia~Sep%201994~Latest~02/04/1995&&tabname=Past%20Future%20Issues&prodno=6267.0&issue=Sep%201994&num=&view=&) (6267.0), 1985-1994.
- [Labour Turnover](https://archive.org/details/australian-statistics?and%5B%5D=subject%3A%22Labour+Turnover%22&sort=-date) (https://archive.org/details/australian-statistics?and%5B%5D=subject%3A%22Labour+Turnover%22&sort=-date) (6210.0), 1949-1976.

* Note: Catalogue number 6226.0 was previously used for [School Leavers, 1970 to 1974: their Employment Status and Education Experience](https://archive.org/details/62260-1975-05) (https://archive.org/details/62260-1975-05), May 1975.

Methodology

[Participation](#), [Job Search and Mobility](#), [Australia methodology](#), [February 2024](#)

 Feedback